



7880  
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# Eye Swab

## Synonyms

Conjunctival swab, ocular swab

## Clinical Indication

If Chlamydia infection is suspected, special swabs are required which are available on request. ; see also Chlamydia detection.

**See separate pages for Corneal scrape/graft/button; vitreous/aqueous taps; contact lens fluid**

Please give detailed clinical information, including date of onset/ contact with the suspected infection, and any current, or intended, antibiotic therapy.

## Part of Profile / See Also

Microscopy, culture for bacteria and fungi; antibiotic sensitivities on potential pathogens.

The type of cultural investigations performed may vary, dependent on the clinical information received.

## Request Form

ICE request or Microbiology form

## Availability / Frequency of Analysis

On request during normal working hours

## Turnaround Time

48 hours for routine bacterial culture, up to 72 hours to identify and perform antibiotic sensitivity testing on significant organisms

## Patient Preparation

## Sample Requirements

### Specimen Type

Bacterial culture swab in transport medium.

**Samples should be transported to laboratory on day of collection**

### Volume

### Container

## Reference Range & Units

## Interferences

## Interpretation & Clinical

## Decision Value (if applicable)

## References

PHE SMI B2

## Test code

EYE

## Lab Handling

Samples should be processed as soon as possible